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SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1912.

The Use of Irrigation Works

The government's interest in reclamation work extends beyond the matter of recovering the money. writch it spends on irrigation plants. If that were all there would never have been any national irrigathe policy than the immunity of the government from loss of money, there would be no need of an irrigation policy, the carrying out of which would be nothing more than a waste of time, skill and energy.

Nor, as Director Newell says, has the government fully discharged its duty in the construction of the works. It must now see that the best use is made of them; that as many blades of grass as possible shall be made to grow where one or none the diffigation policy shall be attained.

This object can be attained partly by education and partly by legislation, the latter to compel a proper use of the government irrigation system; and partly by encouraging the railroad development of the regions where the ground work for home-making has been laid by the reclamation service.

use it by the owners of 30,000 acres of land, about one-sixth of the area for which water has been made

could be cultivated is now under cultivation.

But 30,000 acres under our own system is far too large an area of rich land to lie idle. It occupies the room of at least 750 prosperous homes. Perhaps 1900 families could live comfortably on this idle land, held now, and to be held indefinitely for purposes of speculation; and to be held until real home-makers adjacent to it, increase its value.

This is the worst feature of the situation. Another evil feature is the blot this 30,000 acres of idle land leaves upon the valley and still another evil. feature is the loss to water users of the aid which should be given them in the maintenance and opera-

This is one of the obstacles to the making of the best use of the irrigation projects of which the government will have to take notice. Fortunately this ohe will be easily removed.

Conviction of the Dynamiters

Two erroneous views will be taken of the result of the long trial of the dynamiters at Indianapolis, the finding of thirty-eight of the forty defendants guilty. Those who are opposed to organized labor will regard the verdict as a blow at unionism. Many union men will feel bitterly, that unionism has been on trial and has been unjustly condemned.

Neither is the case. The offense with which the defendants were charged was not a conspiracy to destroy property or life, but a conspiracy to endanger the lives of passengers on railway trains and other conveyances, by the unlawful transportation of explosives from state to state. One caught in the act of earrying dynamite in a railway train, though he may have intended to use it for some lawful purpose, would have been as liable to conviction.

The use of the explosives made in the case of this particular conspiracy, the destruction of the Los Angeles Times building, preceded by dynamiting outrages throughout the country, precipitated the investigation which led to the arrest and indictment of the defendants. The government has, not been considering the merits of the seven-year-old controversy between the American Bridge company and the iron workers. It could have no jurisdiction in such a quarrel.

It is incidental that a large number of labor leaders have been proved to be implicated in this signatic conspiracy. It is also well for unionism that such men as Tveitmoe, an old-time convict, Ryan, Hockin, Munsey and Clancy have been exposed, for whatever discredit has been brought upon organized labor, has been brought by such leaders.

Unionism took no part in the late trial as it did in the cases of the McNamaras. Its activity in behalf of them was excusable. The crime with which they were charged was so monstrous as to be unbelievable and, but for their confession it might now be doubted whether they were guilfy. That confession put organized labor on guard against being led into sympathy with the men who have just been convicted.

Tucson's Y. M. C. A. Gift

The bread which the citizens of Tucson cast upon the water a couple of years ago has been returned to them in the shape of a Christmas gift by Walter Douglas, in the shape of a donation of \$60,000 for a Y. M. C. A. building.

The citizens of Tucson raised a sum of money, suffering money market across the seas.

about \$75,000, for the purchase of ground needed by the railroad company for yards and terminal facilities. The land passed to un organization of citizens called the Railroad Holding company. The railroad on entering the town a year ago made a selection of such parts of the land as it needed and took no more, though it might have taken all.

The remainder in several irregular-shaped tracts was left with the holding company which has since disposed of it for \$15,000.

Thus the gift to the railroad company has been offset by the gift of the latter to the city. The subscribers to the holding company fund, it is said, will probably add the \$15,000 which they would receive from the residue of the land, to the railroad's gift so that there will be a \$75,000 Y. M. C. A. fund.

Now that the ball has been set rolling, the city will be asked to contribute a site for it has still several tracts left, though within the last ten years it has been disposing of its real estate holdings with predigal liberality.

A Question of Authorship

We should like to know who is the author of 'Is there a Santa Claus?" an article which appeared many years ago in the New York Sun and which appears in that paper annually. The article is a reply to a letter real or imaginary from a little girl, Virginia O'Hanlon, whose playmates have told that there is no Santa Claus. A doubt is formed and she applies to the Sun to have it resolved.

The reply is one of the finest expressions in the tion policy and if no other good should result from English language. The thought and style of it will probably give it a permanent place in English literature. There were perhaps few men in this country capable of producing that masterpiece and if one had been asked to make a list of them, the list would certainly have included Charles A. Dana, the great glowing sun-spot of the New York Sun-

Though we believe it was never stated by the Sun that Mr. Dana was the author he has generally grew before; that the great home-making object of of which following the practice of the Sun, publish "Is there a Santa Claus" annually,

The article appeared in The Republican again yesterday morning, selected from an exchange which ascribes it to P. F. Church, who was for some time

In view of the beauty of this gem and the certainty of its lasting quality the matter of its author- ment is to start if it start at all! The Republican has frequently alluded to an ship should be definitely settled while there are abuse of the Salt River project; that is, a failure to those living who know who wrote is there a Santa

A thoughtless paragrapher believes that Mrs. F Mr. Newell states that we are fortunate in com- Augustus Heinze need not worry about the high sarison with the people under other projects in that cost of living with the \$1000 a month alimony that there is so little abuse of this one. Taking all the has just been allowed her. At present, of course, projects together much less than half the land which. Mrs. Heinze can exist, but the cost of living is still

LITTLE JAMES

(Concerning New Year's and Good Resolutions Generally.)

"This," sez My Paw, "is th' Season of th' Yeer when accordin' to Poplar beleef, th' Wotter Waggon an' th' other Veehikles which Conveys us along th' Strate an' Narrow Path is brot out an' Greesed fer th' Annyal Journey. Th' Perceshun is s'posed to start on Noo Yeers morning.

'Th' Rode is not only Narrow an' Strate but accordin' to th' most Relible Book 'at was ever Rote an' which is still regarded as wun of th' Six Best Cellars, they is a good many Rox in th' Rode so's 'at a good many of th' Passengers gits Bumped Off every Yeer but enuff goes through to make th' Reformashun Line pay.

"Even when a feller falls off he aint what's called a Totle Loss. Th' Outing, while it lasts is a good thing fer his 'Helth an' Morles an' he comes back to Resoom his former Sinfle Life much Refresht

It does a man good to try to Behave hisself at leest wunst a Yeer whether he keeps it up or not. Jist as long as he's out of Mischeef an' Jale he's out, an' if he forms th' Habbits of tryin' to be Good he'll git more Experter at it. His gooder Mussels'll git Stronger an' mebbe he'll Pull through

'I know 'at when wun falls of'n a Wotter Waggon, fer they is all Bilt High, he gits a Paneful Jolt. He gits filled with both Mentle an' Fizzicle Remorse an' at first he's a Noshun to run after th' Wotter Waggon an' Ketch it but then his wind gives out an' he sez: 'O Shaw, it'll be around agin next Yeer an' I'll Book for Passidge wunst more.'

"It's a good thing he started an' a Bad thing 'at he fell off an' it's a Worser thing 'at he don't know at they aint more'n wun Line of Wotter Waggons when they's Reely 365 Rivle Rootes, all runnin' to th' Same place. We can make Reservashuns fer th' Journey any day or Nite in th' Yeer. The first wag-

gon you can take is th' Best. They's another thing about these here Wotter Waggons 'at I most fer got to tell. You got to Hold on Tite an' keep away from th' Edge an' keep your Mind on th' Trip an' Your destinashun. If you keep thinkin' all th' Time about th' Place you Left you'll

Find your way back there when you aint Lookin'. While I'm in Favor of Noo Yeers Resolushuns, they's wun thing I don't like about 'em. When a man fixes any Speshle date fer his Reformashun he's apt, when that Date comes around to be Pervented from Keepin' it by a Pryor Engagement. If he Reforms hisself by th' Almaneck, the chanst is 'at when th' Yeer's over he'll say to hisself, 'Well, I'fulfild my Obligashun all rite. Last Yeer's almaneck aint no Good nohow. It's lost its Force an' Effeck." LITTLE JAMES.

Europe's Appeal to MacVeagh

(Philadelphia Bulletin) The appeal of Sir George Palsh in the Statist for action by Secretary MacVeagh to relieve the money crisis which Europe is now facing is an acknowledgment possibly unintended, that some virtue exists in the treasury policy of the United States which segregates currency for emergency uses, and a confession that the "elastic" currency systems of the old world are not sufficient for the extraordinary needs which have arisen. Nevertheless there does not appear to be offered any compelling reason why tthe secretary of the United States treasury should act contrary to what appears to him to be sound domestic policy, or should go beyond the needs of business in this country. New York has not been making any unwarranted draft the El Paso and Southwestern railroad through Mr. on the world's supply of gold. It has been excepionally moderate in its demands, and the United States is not required to disregard its own interests for the sake of playing the Good Samaritan to the

Lobbying for Tyranny

(New York World)

in the various prohibition states it is a crime to manufacture, sell or give away intoxicants. It is a crime to have liquor in a house. It is a crime for a traveler passing through dry territory to take a drink from a pocket flask,

Because some of these offen es happen every day those who are more intent upon regulating the habits of people than upon enforcing the law want congress by the exercise of its great powers to come to their assistance. They want a federal law prohibiting interstate shipments in such cases. They want the nation to make their state laws effective. They want to say what their neighbors shall and shall not drink, and then they would like to turn the whole matter over to the United States govern-

ment for administration. The right of a state to outlaw commodities and practices elsewhere perfectly lawful must be conceded, but the responsibility for the execution of the policy is its own. If most of its people offend and its pails are not commodious enough to accommodate them, there is the best of evidence that public opinion is either hostile or hypocritical. In any event, there are excellent reasons why the central government should not exercise a tyranny

On to Albany?

(New York Globe) Arthur Woods, formerly secretary of the citizens' committee on police and later a deputy police commissioner under General Bingham has studied the graft problem from both the outside and the inside of Mulberry street headquarters. His conclusion is thus entitled to double weight. It is as follows: "Unenforcible laws against vice are the hothed of

Practically every voice in the city that has so far made itself articulate is seemingly agreed on this fundamental proposition. Dr. Parkhurst and Mayor Gaynor are calling each other names, but they coincide in this judgment. Waldo, Cropsey, Bingham, Baker, McAdoo and Greene, however much they may differ on other matters, are in accord that the law that is only half enforced or sporadically enforced is the underlying cause of police cor-

With agreement on the part of laity and clergy. with the underworld of vice and the upper world of reform declaring one and the same thing, is it not possible to move on to Albany this winter and secure from our country cousins release from laws inapplicable to New York conditions and a permission to enjoy that real home rule with which better-

We Care Least for Selves

(Pensacola Journal)

minute a day you hasten to have it regulated. If your horse goes lame or your dog gets sick, you seek a remedy at once If your friend has a fault you see it and want

The one thing precious above all others to you. that you are especially charged to keep in repairyourself-you treat with greater indifference than

You do habitually a thousand things that you know injure your health, and that you would not permit your dog to do, and you do not care. If you find your pulse is losing a beat or two a

minute, the fact does not worry you half as much as does the loss of a second or two by your watch. Once a week, at least you compare your watch with a chronometer to know that it is right. But you never compare your pulse with anything. Why? Because you don't care as much about your heart as you do about your watch. The watch cost cost you maybe \$50; the heart cost you nothing. And thus you value them.

The Burdens of the Rich

(Saturday Evening Post)

A lamentable situation has arisen in New York. Value of real estate in that city has gone up more than three billion dollars in eight years. That ought to be pleasant for land owners. But as value rises assessments and taxes rise, too, and a powerful federation of land owners now declares that the outrageous rise in taxes consequent upon rise in values has simply got to stop. In order to relieve real estate from this intolerable burden the federan proposes that land used for charitable, educational and religious purposes-now exempt-be taxed; also that taxes be imposed on all overhanging signs. on each thousand dollars worth of goods manufactured in the city; on the contents of dwellings; that special taxes be levied on automobiles, and that citizens be required to pay an occupation tax.

Apparently, if it were left to the federation, everything would be taxed-except real estate. Professor Seligman has pointed out that the whole history of taxation consists of the efforts of each interest or class to shift the burden upon other interests or classes. Generally speaking, the richer any particular interest or class is, the more powerful it will be; and the more powerful it is, the greater success it will meet with in its efforts to shift the burden upon somebody else. This is why our tax laws are mainly a hodgepodge of inequality and iniquity. The whole subject needs overhauling from the ground up.

HOW SHE CHOSE HER HUSBAND

Paris Letter to London Telegraph) The Montenegrin woman wishes not only to be the mother of men, but the wife of a man. She holds to a high-handed husband, to one who will be master of his own house. Here is the story of the wooing of Gordanne:

Gordanne was the beautiful daughter of an innkeeper. Her suitors were many, and it was time for her to wed. She promised to make her choice among three suitors, and summoned them all to her father's house.

First, it was a youth gloved and cravatted, who, during a week-end at Cattaro, had acquired the elegancies of city life. "Excuse me," he said with a polite doffing of his hat as she met him at the doorway, "will you permit me to pass?" Gordanne stepped aside, but as she did so she murmured, "You will never be my husband."

The second, a comfortable farmer, was less polite. "Let me in," he said, pushing past the girl. 'Neither shall you ever call me wife," said the girl

Then came the third, who said nothing, but selzing her by the arm, flung Gordanne aside and entered the house as if already/ master. "That," sighed the innkeeper's daughter, "is a true Montenegrin. He is the husband for me! Of such stuff, after all, are the mothers of

MAN'S BURDENS

Nothing happens to any man which he is not formed by nature to bear.-Marcus Aurelius.

Should Voting be Compulsory?

(Century Magazine)

After every fair allowance has been made, however, the fact is notorious that many citizens entitled to vote to do not go to the polls. The registration figures often fall far below what they should be, and the ballots finally east and counted reveal a large number of indifferents or stay-at-homes. Hence the demand, which seems to be a rising demand, that the citizen be compelled by law to do his duty

as an elector, if he will not do it unforced, Compulsory voting has been advocated of late by the attorney general of the United States. No one would class Mr. Wickersham among the impetuous faddists. He has studied European practice and precedents in the matter of inflicting penalties upon citizens who fail to exercise the franchise. and favors the adoption of some modified form of such legislation in this country. The argument for it will certainly be greatly enforced if we are widely to enter upon the experiment of law-making by initiative and referendum.

The people are sovereign, but if only a portion of them speak, how are we to know the real voice of authority? There have been elections, some of them passing on statutes referred to the electorate, some on important constitutional changes, in which the votes of only a majority of a minority were effective. If that should become common, the case for compulsory voting would obviously be stronger.

Objections to it at present lie mainly against details. It is urged, for example, that no compulsion should be laid upon the voter to choose between two candidates neither of whom could be conscientiously support. But in that event he could cast a blank or a "scratched" ballot. He is within his right in refusing to express a preference between two equally offensive nominees; but it may be held that he has no right to remain away from the polls. Mr. Chesterton has argued that all who fail to vote should be "counted in the negative," but that is to put a premium upon sloth. An active negative by ballot is much more significant than mere abstention. We know too well what "apathy" means in elections: but we should be much better off if instead of their apathy at home, we had all our citizens expressing their honest zeal or their burning indignation at the

The whole subject is not yet ripe for positive remedies embodied in law, but the deep interest taken in it is both suggestive and encouraging. It helps one to believe that the democratic experiment will continue to keep level with its problems as they successively present themselves. Whatever the exact method of reform that may be adopted, it must not omit to tie up intelligence with duty. Voting, whether it should be made compulsory or not, cannot safely, be severed from education. The two must always go together.

Meaning of the Declaration

(John Quincy Adams)

which in this paper has survived the occasion upon which it was issued—the interest which is of every age and every clime-the interest which quickens with the lapse of years, spreads as it grows old, and brightens as it recedes-is in the principles which But, somehow or other, you treat yourself very it proclaims. It was the first solemn declaration by a nation of the only legitimate foundation of civil government. It was the cornerstone of a new fabric. destined to cover the surface of the globe. It demolished at a stroke the lawfulness of all governments founded upon conquest. It swept away all the rubbish of accumulated centuries of servitude. It announced, in practical form, to the world the transcendent truth of the inalienable sovereignty of the people. It proved that the social compact was no figment of the imagination, but a real, solid and sacred bond of the social union.

From the day of this declaration the people of North America were no longer the fragment of a distant empire, imploring justice and mercy from an inexorable master, in another hemisphere. They were no longer children, appealing in vain to the sympathies of a heartless mother; no longer subjects, leaning upon the shattered columns of royal promises, and invoking the faith of parchment to secure their rights. They were a nation, asserting as of right, and maintaining by war, its own existence. A nation was born in a day,

How many ages hence Shall this, their lofty scene, be acted o'er In states unborn, and accents yet unknown!

Loans to Farmers

(Calgary Herald)

The biggest question before the Canadian parliament today is that of lending money to farmers. creased. The great part of the savings of the country is in the tills of the bankers. Those other savings, in , the form of life insurance and trust and loan company investments, are only a flea-bite compared with what the banks hold. Most of the holdings of the banks comes from the farmer. Yet he os the man who cannot borrow from the banks. He cannot borrow on his real estate because banks are forbidden to loan on such security. He cannot borrow on wheat he may have in his barns, because the law forbids that, too. He cannot borrow on a per- modern improvements. sonal note-to any satisfactory extent.

JARRED ON MR. KING'S EAR (London Mail)

The postmaster general in the house of commons informed Lord Tullibardine that there was no telephone service to the islands of Rhum, Eigg, Muck and Canna in the Hebrides, and no telegraph Mr. King-Can the right honorable gentleman

not suggest some better names for these places?

ENGLAND'S WANTS (San Francisco Chronicle)

England made a very good bargain after the war between Turkey and Russia. She is likely to have a harder row to hoe now.

Valuable Papers

are never safe unless properly cared for. We have modern Safe Deposit Boxes in a modern vault. For rent at a reasonable cost.

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Decrease in Rural Population

(Coal Trade Journal)

Months ago, when the census figures were new, we alluded to the falling off of population in the agricultural counties of New York state and Pennsylvania and stated that even in a state like Illinois there were many counties that showed no increase in population. These facts indicated, we stated, that the country coal dealer, the man located in the small places, did not have much chance to enlarge his business, and as the dealers in the manufacturing centers and the larger places generally grew in importance, the country dealer would become less of a factor.

We notice now that the Bluefield Telegraph has taken up this matter of decreased rural population and in pointing out that in the agricultural counties of West Virginia there is a falling off in the number of inhabitants, so that the supplying of farm products for the many busy mining communities of that state, and the half-dozen or so large centers of population, is quite a problem. No less than eleven counties of West Virginia showed a decrease in population, while the rural, as distinguished from the urban, population in half a dozen others de-

But against the apprehension as to high cost of living for the coal field people it is appropriate to state that modern improvements have been extended to the farm as well as the factory, and in some lines one man can do ten or twenty times as much work as his forefathers did. The decrease in number of producers as compared with consumers is a serious matter, it is true, and yet we must not overlook the matter of increased efficiency attained through the use of machinery and other

SOCIALIST PROTESTS (Detroit Free Press)

It is very well for the French socialists to pull off these little soirees occasionally and gain an extra holiday nd indulge in high sounding eloquence. Possibly it is even a good thing, because it gives vent to energy which otherwise would be dangerously restrained. Bue we will be far more convinced of the efficacy of their gospel after the "Marsellaise" has ben sung and the people have been called out to marrh, we'll say, against the Germans, and have failed to respond.

Every nation to its trade. Turkey ought to stick to the rug and cigarette business and let others do the fighting.-Detroit News.

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